

Message Text

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71

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1655

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, ELAB, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE SEAMEN'S UNION MISSION ON FISHERIES ISSUE

REF: (A) STATE 195192, (B) TOKYO 11746

1. AUGUST 17 MORNING EDITIONS OF ASAHI AND JAPAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL (NIHON KEIZAI) CARRIED BRIEF SUMMARY OF JAPAN SEAMEN'S UNION (KAIEN KUMIAI) VICE PRESIDENT DO'S AUG. 16 PRESS CONFERENCE ON FISHERIES ISSUE FOLLOWING HIS RETURN FROM U.S.

2. DOI REPORTEDLY SAID AFL-CIO PRESIDENT GEORGE MEANY PROMISED KAIIN DELEGATION THAT AFL-CIO WOULD "FULLY COOPERATE" WITH KAIIN TO PREVENT NEW U.S. EXCLUSIVE FISHERIES ZONE FROM PRODUCING MASSIVE UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG JAPANESE FISHERMEN AND THAT IT WOULD TRY TO PLACE UNION REPRESENTATIVES ON REGIONAL FISHERIES COUNCILS.

3. DOI CONTRASTED SYMPATHETIC REACTION OF PRESIDENT MEANY TO TOUCH ATTITUDE SHOWN BY UNNAMED STATE AND COMMERCE OFFICIALS WHOM, HE SAID, INDICATED THAT SINCE JAPAN NOW TAKING HALF THE CATCH WITHIN U.S. 200 MILELIMIT IT COULD NOT BE GRANTED SPECIAL TREATMENT. HE ALSO SAID U.S. OFFICIALS MADE CLEAR FOR FIRST TIME OFFICIALLY THAT THEY EXPECT FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS TO RESULT IN ESTABLISHMENT OF QUOTAS CUTTING JAPANESE CATCH IN HALF.

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DOI SAID KAIIN GROUP URGED THAT ANY QUOTAS BE APPLIED

GRADUALLY.

4. DOI SAID KAIIN MISSION HEARD FROM OTHER AMERICANS
IN CONGRESS AND FISHERIES INDUSTRY THAT WHILE THEY WOULD
DO WHAT THEY COULD TO KEEP JAPANESE FISHERMEN FROM
BECOMING THE SCAPEGOATS OF THE NEW LAW, THEY NEVERTHE-
LESS BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT IF JAPANESE CONTINUE FISHING
AT CURRENT RATE, FISHERIES RESOURCES WILL SOON BE
TOTALLY DEPLETED.
SHOESMITH

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